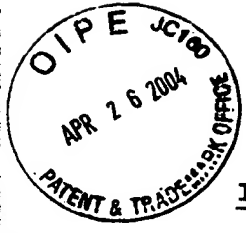


Image



Dkt. 0575/54205-A-PCT-US/JPW/AJM/MML

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : John O'Connor et al.

Serial No. : 09/630,215 Examiner: Gailene Gabel

Filed : August 1, 2000 Group Art Unit: 1641

For : METHODS FOR PREDICTING PREGNANCY OUTCOME IN A
SUBJECT BY hCG ASSAY

1185 Avenue of the Americas
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April 23, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO FEBRUARY 24, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

This Communication is submitted in response to the February 24, 2004 Office Action issued in connection with the above-identified patent application. A response to the February 24, 2004 Office Action is due May 24, 2004. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.